

1 1. In a patient's mouth including a buccal cavity, a pharyngeal cavity, an epiglottis,  
2 a vallecular, and a tongue, a supraglottic and peri-laryngeal apparatus for insertion  
3 of a supraglottic airway by a medical practitioner into said patient's upper airway,  
4 said apparatus comprising:

5 a handle member;

6 an arcuate offset member disposed medially of said handle member and a  
7 compressor-lever shield member;

8 said compressor-lever shield member configured to continuously widen  
9 from said arcuate offset member to a substantially broad tip means disposed at said  
10 shield member's leading, distal edge, and adapted to match size and configuration  
11 of the anatomical features of said patient's upper airway; and

12 said arcuate offset member configured to enable said shield member to  
13 reach said supraglottic region proximal to the base of said tongue and said  
14 vallecular so as to provide sufficient leverage to enable said medical practitioner to  
15 compress and lift said tongue and to simultaneously lift said epiglottis in said  
16 pharyngeal cavity, while simultaneously flattening said tongue in said buccal cavity,  
17 for creating sufficient space in both said buccal cavity and said pharyngeal cavity to  
18 enable said medical practitioner to rapidly insert said supraglottic airway while  
19 minimizing tissue trauma and post-procedural patient discomfort.

20 2. The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein said handle member, said arcuate  
21 offset member, and said compressor-lever shield member are integrally constructed.

22 3. The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein said handle member and said arcuate

offset member are releasably interconnected by a first connection means.

4. The apparatus recited in Claim 3, wherein said first connection means comprises a threaded engagement between said handle member and said arcuate offset member.

5. The apparatus recited in Claim 3, wherein said first connection means comprises a slotted engagement between said handle member and said arcuate offset member.

6. The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein said arcuate offset member and said compression-lever shield member are interconnected by a second connection means.

7. The apparatus recited in Claim 6, wherein said second connection means comprises a slotted channel engagement between said arcuate offset member and said compression-lever shield member.

8. The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein said compression-lever shield member comprises a substantially flat configuration.

9. The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein said compression-lever shield member comprises a substantially concave configuration.

10. The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein said compression-lever shield member comprises a perimeter buffered edge to prevent tissue trauma as said shield member is advanced by said medical practitioner through said patient's pharyngeal cavity into said vallecular.

11. The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein said arcuate offset member includes

